Revision of fare and freight rates

248. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI:

SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have lately revised passenger fares and freight rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the contemplated impact of such changes on the railways' revenues, the passengers and goods traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) While there has been no change in passenger fares, a minor change has been made in freight rates by changing classification of slag from Class-140 to Class-150. This will have marginal increase in earnings of about one crore in remaining part of financial year.

Rail hostage incident on Bengal-Orissa route

†249. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inquiry into the rail hostage incident that happened on Bengal-Orissa route, has been completed;

(b) whether hijackers are found to have links with political elements;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any hijacker's group has claimed responsibility; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (e) A case has been registered in GRPS/ Jhargram on FIR lodged by Station Manager/ Jhargram. The matter has also been referred to Ministry of Home Affairs for necessary investigation.

Rail projects in Rajasthan

250. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of gauge conversion, doubling, new rail lines and electrification projects pertaining to the State of Rajasthan;

(b) whether her Ministry has taken any concrete steps for the early completion of above projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof project-wise, along with the time by when these projects are likely to be completed; and

(d) the new rail line proposals pertaining to Rajasthan, which were included in the Railway Budget (2009-10) and finally approved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Status of ongoing Railway Projects in the State of Rajasthan is given as under:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi